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DIRECT EDITION

IN A SOCIETY WHERE MUTANTS AND FORMER MUTANTS ALIKE FEEL THREATENED BY THE WORLD AROUND THEM, THEY TURN TO THEIR FIRST, BEST LINE OF DEFENSE WHENEVER TROUBLE ARISES: X-FACTOR, THE PRIVATE DETECTIVE AGENCY FOUNDED BY MADROX, THE MULTIPLE MAN.

X-FACTOR



AFTER ANNOUNCING THAT X-FACTOR WAS OPPOSED TO THE SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT, JAMIE MADROX GOT HIMSELF GOOD AND HAMMERED, WOKE UP THE NEXT MORNING, AND DISCOVERED THAT EITHER HE OR A DUPE OR BOTH HAD SLEPT WITH BOTH SIRYN AND MONET...AND NEITHER OF THE WOMEN KNOWS ABOUT THE OTHER.

MEANWHILE SCIENTIST HENRY BUCHANAN, WHO WORKS FOR SINGULARITY INVESTIGATIONS, SOUGHT OUT X-FACTOR AND TOLD THEM SI WAS WORKING ON A VIRUS THAT WOULD KILL ALL MUTANTS...WHICH SENT JAMIE INTO A FIT OF FURY SINCE IT BROUGHT UP MEMORIES OF THE LEGACY VIRUS. GUIDO WAS ASSIGNED TO DRIVE BUCHANAN OVER TO A BANK WHERE BUCHANAN HAD A SAFE-DEPOSIT BOX FILLED WITH EVIDENCE...EXCEPT, TO THE SHOCK OF EVERYONE READING LAST ISSUE, GUIDO—AFTER RECEIVING A PHONE CALL FROM SINGULARITY HEAD MR. TRYPI—KILLED BUCHANAN IN COLD BLOOD...WHICH IS LIKE KILLING SOMEONE IN WARM BLOOD, EXCEPT THE AIR-CONDITIONING WAS ON.

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YEARS AGO...

JOAN...
DANIEL... I DON'T
THINK YOU TRULY
APPRECIATE HOW MUCH
MY ORGANIZATION HAS
TO OFFER JAMES...

"JAMIE"
HE PREFERENCES
"JAMIE."



JAMIE.
MY MISTAKE.
PARDON.

IF YOU HAVE
JAMIE JOIN THE
SINGULARITY TEAM,
HIS FUTURE WILL
BE ASSURED.

WE'VE ACTUALLY
BEEN CORRESPONDING
WITH CHARLES XAVIER,
PRACTICALLY SINCE
JAMIE WAS BORN...

I DON'T
KNOW THAT I
AGREE MR.
TRYF.

XAVIER IS
NOT THE RIGHT
PERSON TO ATTEND
TO JAMIE'S NEEDS.



THAT'S WHY
I'M HERE TO
CONVINCE YOU,
DANIEL. YOU
AND JOAN...

YOU'RE BOTH
SCIENTISTS, PEOPLE
OF LEARNING. I
WOULD THINK YOUR
MINDS WOULD BE
OPEN TO...
POSSIBILITIES...

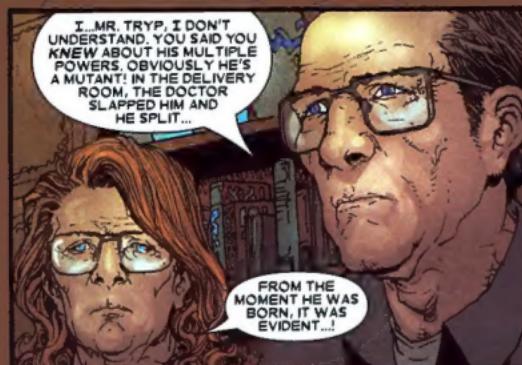
OUR MINDS ARE OPEN,
SIR, BUT YOU SHOW UP
HERE, OUT OF THE BLUE...
SOMEHOW YOU KNOW
EVERYTHING ABOUT
US AND JAMIE...

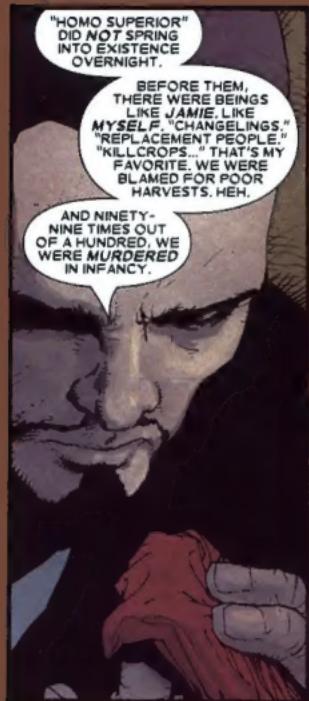
BUT WE KNOW
NOTHING ABOUT
YOU... AND YOU SAY
YOU'RE BETTER
QUALIFIED THAN
XAVIER...

WHOM
NO ONE CAN DISPUTE
IS THE FOREMOST
EXPERT ON MUTANTS...

WHEN DID I
SAY JAMIE WAS
A MUTANT?









© TODAY...

HE...
WHAT?
DID YOU
SAY...?







THIS IS NUTS! WHY WOULD I HAVE HIS BODY FLUIDS ON MY HANDS?



MONET...



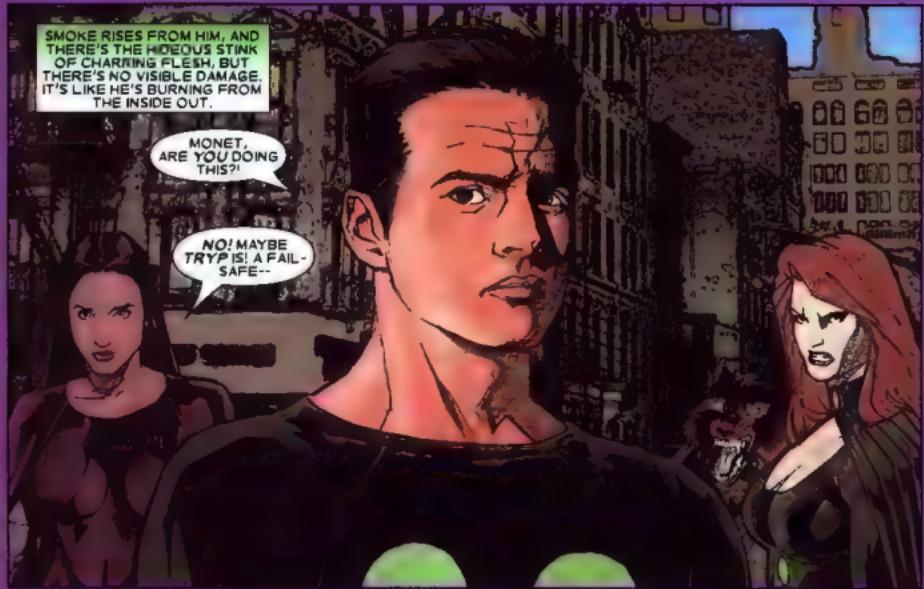
ONLY MONET COULD PULL THIS OFF. SHE'S GOT THE STRENGTH TO HANG ON...AND THE TELEPATHIC PROWESS TO PUSH HER WAY INTO GUIDO'S MIND. SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING...





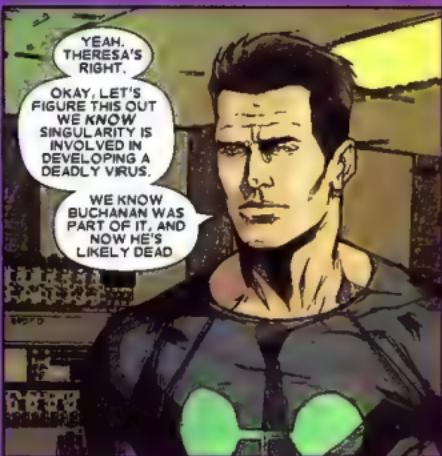












NO, HENRY
DOESN'T EVER DO
S.I. RESEARCH HERE.
HE ALWAYS MAKES A
POINT OF KEEPING
HOME SEPARATE
FROM WORK.

HIS WORK
PLACE? THE S.I. BUILDING,
THIRTY-SECOND FLOOR.
BUT...CERTAINLY HENRY
COULD TELL YOU THAT
HIMSELF.

WHERE IS
HE? CAN I SPEAK
TO HIM?

HE'S...
UH...

INCOMMUNICADO

...INCOMMUNICADO
AT THE MOMENT, MA'AM.
AT A SECURE LOCATION
FOR HIS OWN SAFETY

HE'S
WORRIED ABOUT
HER

BUT HE'S
CONCERNED ABOUT YOU

I KNOW. HE
TOLD ME TO PACK
MY BAGS AND START
DRIVING. I WAS
ALMOST OUT THE
DOOR WHEN YOU
CALLED.

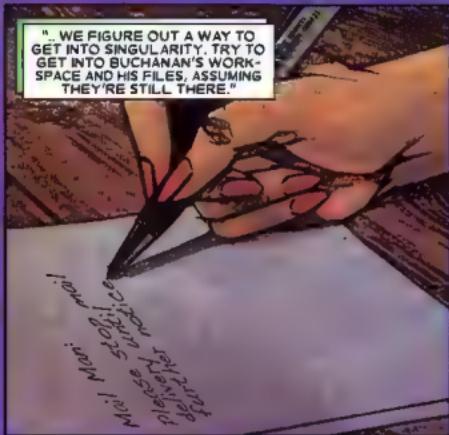
HE HAD THE
RIGHT IDEA. DO YOU
HAVE A CELL PHONE
NUMBER SO WE CAN
STAY IN TOUCH?

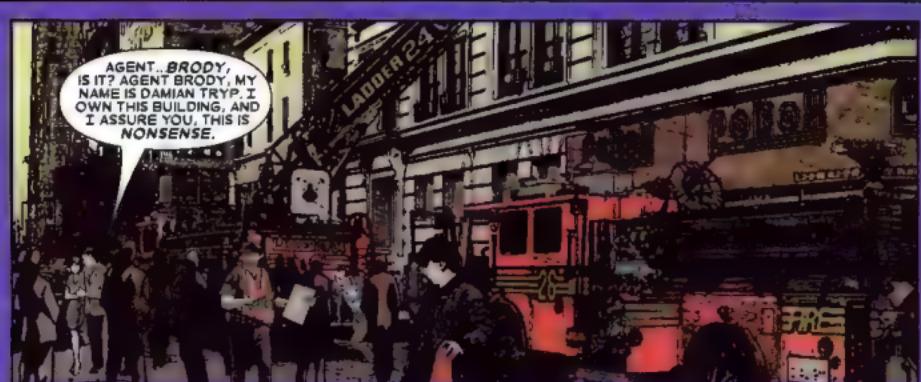
555-2516...
OKAY, GOT
IT.

NOW GET
ON THE ROAD,
MRS. BURRANAN.
WE'LL BE IN
TOUCH.

"OH, YEAH, AND BY THE WAY,
YOUR HUSBAND'S DEAD AND
ONE OF OUR GUYS KILLED HIM
BUT DON'T WORRY, WE'LL
PRORATE YOU FOR OUR
SERVICES."

NOT NOW,
MONET. RIGHT
NOW...







I HEAR YOU, MIMI. WE'RE ON IT.

HOW LONG 'TIL THE REAL SQUADS REACH THE THIRTY-SECOND FLOOR?

I'M HOPING AT LEAST HALF AN HOUR, SINCE THEY HAVE TO CLEAR THE FIRST THIRTY-ONE FLOORS.

YOU DO REALIZE CALLING IN FAKE BOMB SCARES IS, OH, WHAT'S THE WORD...?

A FELONY?

THAT'S IT.

SO IS GENERATING A VIRUS TO KILL MUTANTS AND HYPNOTIZING SOMEONE INTO MURDER. I'M FIGHTING FIRE WITH FIREFIGHTERS. MY CONSCIENCE IS CLEAR.

I LOVE IT WHEN YOU TALK TOUGH.

DID SHE JUST GRAB YUR RUMP? SHE WAS PUSHING ME ASIDE.

BECAUSE IT SURE LOOKED LIKE--

C'MON, LET'S GO.



X-10 OUT PART 2

PETER DAVID | RENATO ARLEM | ROY ALLEN MARTINEZ | JOSE VILLARRUBIA | IVC'S CORY PETIT LETTERS | RYAN SOOK & JOSE VILLARRUBIA COVER ART | ANDY SCHMIDT EDITOR | JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF | DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

X-FACTOR

Welcome, my friends, to the lettercol that never ends. Peter David here, welcoming the many new readers who have joined our ranks. They came for the CIVIL WAR, but they're staying for the noir. And I'm pleased to say that our reputation is spreading. We here at X-Central were flattered to find out that X-FACTOR was nominated for a Harvey Award for "Best New Series." One of the reasons I know this is because DC Comics actually sent me a copy of the Harvey ballot and urged me to vote for all DC titles. Yeah. That's gonna happen. So lesssee what you have to say about our recent efforts. Letters, as always, are edited for length but not content:

Dear X-Central:

I have to admit, as a teen I didn't read too many comics, outside of X-MEN and the original X-FACTOR was far from a favorite. Who am I kidding? I hated it. However, since getting back into comics two years ago, I've seen some good things and some bad things. I feel your writing style is a breath of fresh air, and you seem to actually focus more on drama than the action. There is nothing better than seeing how a character can develop through trials and tribulations. X-FACTOR and NEW X-MEN are currently my favorite X-titles.

I do have some suggestions and questions. A lot of readers don't seem to like Monet at all, but I think they fail to realize what you are trying to do with the character. It seems to me that she has a lot of insecurity issues about herself, but we've seen her soft side, especially when the maid was killed by the actor Vaughn. I would definitely love to see more of her issues come out and let the readers understand her completely.

I understand that there is a lot going on with the X-FACTOR Team, but one thing I would like to see resolved is Rahne's relationship with Dani. Dani was going to make peace with her before HOUSE OF M started, but now that she has lost her powers, she is at the lowest point in her life—when she NEEDS Rahne. Other than that, this has been a good series. Keep up the good work.

Michael Vaden
(Via E-mail)

Boy, are you going to like X-FACTOR #13, Michael, in which Doc Samson (and we) get some further insight into what's going on in Monet's noggin. Plus her unexpected relationship with Jamie is

going to reveal some previously unknown layers. But we've no immediate plans to bring Dani Moonstar into the mix for the time being. Our aim is to focus on the relationships of the X-Factor cast, which is already large enough. We're not ruling out a possible guest shot by Dani, but no time soon.

Dear X-Central:

Hey, I just finished X-FACTOR #9. I want you to know how much I love this series. You really know how to bring the funny. Layla Miller cracks me up. You took a throwaway character and made her the star of a series. Please tell me she was serious when she told Jamie they would get married in the future. She reminds me of the files and records girl from "Angel," Season Three. I know you said this series would resemble the "Angel" TV series. Is that where you got her mannerisms from?

Christopher Goodnight
(Via E-mail)

Well, Christopher, I don't recall ever actually saying that. I know some fans have claimed there's a resemblance. I can certainly see why they say that, considering "Angel" was populated by vampires, demons, and a god, and the primary opponent was an evil law firm, whereas "X-Factor"...hmmmm. On second thought, no, I can't see why they say that. As for the "files and records" girl, if you mean the creepy kid in the white room...no. She's exactly the way she was described: Nostradamus reincarnated as Wednesday Addams, although I admit some of her style is influenced by Radar O'Reilly from "M*A*S*H." As for whether she was serious about marrying Jamie: Yeah. She was.

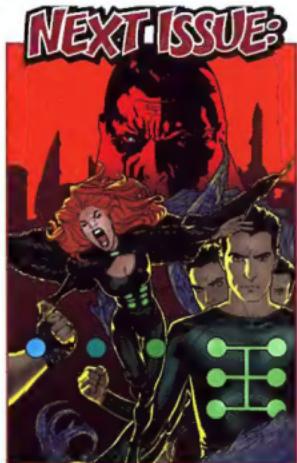
Dear X-Central:

As time goes on Dennis Calero is more and more acceptable; doesn't always happen you know! What happened to Ryan Sook anyway? He really dropped off the face, so to speak. How come Madrox and Rahne always called Cyclops Scotty in this ish, when his own teammates all called him just Scott? Does it have anything to do with Scotty Steiner????? Any Aegis appearance is okay by me; and I'm not just saying that 'cause you hyped him up with the dialogue. What does that guy's future hold? Probably nothing! Every new character in the late 90's had force field powers. But there's something going on

with the New Warriors that yer not telling us, right, Marvel? I'd love to read a new series, actually. I read all three of the others! Oh, and Quicksilver is back, huh? Does this mean they're actually gonna GO on a mission or two?! I still think X-FACTOR is okay, but what about a year or two from now, hm? Sales are bound to fall regardless, and without big changes—we still have a gent called Strong Guy on the team, ya know—this book will lag. I want to at Least see a big encounter between X-Factor and the current U.S. Government strike team: Thunderbolts! And why not, right? Hey, if Aegis can show up...!

Andrew J. Shaw
(Via E-mail)

I'm really not sure where to start, Andrew, except to say that a year from now, we certainly hope that sales will continue to climb and, eventually, we'll be the best-selling mutant title in the Marvel Universe. Yes, I know, it sounds ridiculous. But hey...they laughed at Louis Pasteur when he announced the invention of the steamboat, and look how well that turned out!



FINALE!

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